

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
TYLER DIVISION

TERRY LOUIS MILLER, #1181622	§	
VS.	§	CIVIL ACTION NO. 6:06cv195
DIRECTOR, TDCJ-CID	§	

ORDER OF DISMISSAL

The above-entitled and numbered civil action was heretofore referred to United States Magistrate Judge John D. Love, who issued a Report and Recommendation concluding that the petition for a writ of habeas corpus should be dismissed as time-barred. The Petitioner has filed objections.

The Report and Recommendation of the Magistrate Judge, which contain his proposed findings of fact and recommendations for the disposition of such action, has been presented for consideration, and having made a *de novo* review of the objections raised by the Petitioner, the Court is of the opinion that the findings and conclusions of the Magistrate Judge are correct.

The Petitioner argued in his objections that the one year statute of limitations should not have begun running until April, 2005, when he finally received the state court records. He argued that the State created an impediment by not giving him the records earlier. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(1)(B). However, he did not have a constitutional right to a free copy of the records for purposes of a collateral challenge to his conviction. *See United States v. MacCollom*, 426 U.S. 317, 323-24 (1976). The Fifth Circuit has not issued a published decision on this issue, but every other circuit has held that problems associated with obtaining transcripts and trial records for preparing a petition for a writ of habeas corpus do not amount to an impediment for purposes of § 2244(d)(1)(B). *See Lloyd v. Vannatta*, 296

F.3d 630, 632-33 (7th Cir. 2002); *Randolph v. Taylor*, 69 Fed. Appx. 824, 825 (9th Cir. 2003); *Miller v. Cason*, 49 Fed. Appx. 495, 497 (6th Cir. 2002); *Crawford v. Costello*, 27 Fed. Appx. 57 (2nd Cir. 2001). The Petitioner also mentioned he previously filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in this Court. *Miller v. Director*, Civil Action No. 6:06cv21 (E.D. Tex.). The petition was filed on January 18, 2006, and voluntarily dismissed on March 20, 2006. It is noted that any possible habeas corpus relief in federal court was time-barred as of October 17, 2005. The Petitioner's previous petition was time-barred by the time it was filed on January 18, 2006. Moreover, the limitations period was not tolled due to the pendency of the previous federal petition. *Grooms v. Johnson*, 208 F.3d 488, 489 (5th Cir. 1999). The Petitioner has not shown in his objections that the petition should not be dismissed as time-barred. Thus the Court hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Magistrate Judge as the findings and conclusions of the Court. It is accordingly

ORDERED that the petition for a writ of habeas corpus is **DENIED** and the case is **DISMISSED** with prejudice. All motions not previously ruled on are hereby **DENIED**. A certificate of appealability is **DENIED**.

SIGNED this 15th day of June, 2006.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael H. Schneider". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Michael" is written in a larger, more prominent script, and "H. Schneider" follows in a similar but slightly smaller script. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

MICHAEL H. SCHNEIDER
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE